

# NO POSSIBLE EXCUSE FOR SLUMS IN CITY

## Declaration Made by Senator Works in Discussing Conditions in Washington.

### PRESENTS BILL IN SENATE TO ABOLISH SNOW'S COURT

#### Initial Move in His Declared Program for Beautifying and Improving Nation's Capital.

"There can be no possible excuse for slums to remain in the National Capital. It is a shame to have an American citizen that they have been allowed to exist at all," said Senator Works of California in his separate report on the fiscal relations of the District of Columbia and the United States, submitted to Congress yesterday. Senator Works has made an investigation of slum conditions here, and his report deals exhaustively with the situation. As a beginning of his proposed remedy for conditions he has introduced in the Senate a bill directing the District Commissioners to purchase or condemn Snow's court, one of the worst slum spots in the city, according to Senator Works, and to erect on this square sanitary dwellings for poor tenants.

#### Senator Discusses Conditions.

Discussing conditions here in his report, Senator Works said: "The American people want their capital to be clean, decent, respectable and healthful as well as beautiful on the outside. It has fallen far below this standard under a system of government where Congress can shift its responsibility onto the District of Columbia, a spineless and irresponsible municipal body. Under this system, the slums, the redlight district, the saloons and unwholesome and insanitary conditions have been allowed to flourish. Crime, vice, corruption and death have devastated portions of the city that could and should have been protected from such conditions.

"From time to time feeble and ineffectual efforts have been made through inadequate laws to remedy these evils. The better class of people in the District have been the best of the city, but with the insufficient weapons provided them by Congress to ameliorate the conditions and protect the poor people, who suffer from them the most, but to a discouraging degree it has been a hopeless task. It is not wholly the fault of the people of the District that these conditions continue down to the present day. Neither is it the fault of the District's officers. The chief reason for it is that Congress has failed to enact the laws and appropriate the money necessary to abate these crying evils, though often urged to do so.

#### Quotes President Roosevelt.

Senator Works quoted from a message of President Roosevelt to the Fifty-ninth Congress, in which he urged that Washington be made a model city. This was followed by the appointment of James Bronson Reynolds of New York to investigate conditions here. President Taft, he said, called attention later to the report made by Mr. Reynolds on the evil slum conditions existing in Washington.

#### Senator Works quoted from the reports on conditions here made by other investigators and continued:

"The picture presented by the quotations I have made is not overdrawn. They do not depend on such information in reaching conclusions. I have examined enough of these slums and inspected enough of the dwellings located in them to speak of my own knowledge. The conditions are unspeakably bad. One who witnesses them for the first time is filled with a profound sense of pity and commiseration for the inmates, not unmixed with a feeling of shame and resentment that a great nation like this, one of the richest and most powerful in the world, and possessed of almost unlimited resources, should allow such conditions to exist in its Capital city.

"Washington is a city of striking and abrupt contrasts. One can ride along a wide, well paved and attractive street lined with beautiful, almost palatial, homes and turn from it upon an old, worn-out, cobblestone or brick paved street, lined with old, broken-down houses, many of them dilapidated and apparently unfit for human habitation. From that one can turn into what are politely called 'inhabited alleys,' 'courts,' 'places,' and find an appalling condition of poverty, destitution and degradation. All this within a distance of two or three squares. Some of these alleys are blind alleys; that is to say, there is but one means of ingress and egress, and within is a labyrinth of alleys covering the entire inside of a square with a fringe of houses around the outside, some of them little better than those within, except that they are easier of access.

#### Reduced to Degrading State.

"Within such a square you will find the most degrading conditions. It is almost beyond belief that human beings can live under such conditions. They have very justly been called pest holes of crime and disease. And yet the owners of the shacks and tumble-down and insanitary houses are making more money out of the rent of them than is being made by the owners of first-class houses and business blocks. The rents are exorbitantly high. As an example, I visited one little old brick shanty with two small rooms up and two down stairs, without running water in the house, out of repair, plaster of the walls, ill lighted and poorly ventilated. This house was occupied by two families, each with two rooms, for which they paid \$7 a month each, or \$14 for this little, dilapidated, insanitary house, that should have been torn down and destroyed under existing laws long since.

"There is but one effective remedy for this dreadful condition. The government should condemn the whole square as a sanitary measure and police regulation, tear everything out of it, root and branch, replant the ground, construct upon it model sanitary houses, rent them to the poorer classes of people who now inhabit the slums, and then supervise and inspect them, thus compelling the tenants to keep them in a sanitary condition inside as well as out.

#### Money Well Spent.

"It will be said that all this will cost a lot of money. Yes, it will, but it will be money much better spent than are millions and millions of dollars that we are now throwing away for useless and illegal purposes.

"The Agricultural Department is spending and wasting millions and millions of dollars on useless experiments and in work that should be done by the states and cannot legitimately be done by the national government. The public health service is spending millions more in the states in violation of the spirit of the Constitution. We are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars for the cure of hogs and cattle in the states, often where the federal authorities have no lawful right or business to enter.

"We spend millions for agricultural colleges and vocational schools in the states, a work that belongs to and should be left to the states. We are spending money lavishly, extravagantly and paternally in the states. The federal government are fast disappearing by the raid of states on the National Treasury. The states are selling their jurisdiction and their sovereignty for money. We are centralizing our government at an alarming rate and to a degree that I am afraid

### APPEAL FOR THOSE IN NEED.

The Joint Finance Committee of the Associated Charities and Citizens' Relief Association of Washington appeal to the citizens of Washington who have not contributed this year to their work for the relief and prevention of distress in the District of Columbia for \$17,000. With this amount in hand, these organizations will be able to continue their efforts without abatement for the next nine months. The sum asked for is a conservative estimate of what is still needed to assure the prompt and adequate response to the many calls for assistance which are coming daily to these social service organizations.

Both charities are entirely dependent upon voluntary gifts. They are endorsed by the Charities' Indorsement Committee. Their accounts are audited by certified accountants. Their books are open to every member. They are the two large, non-sectarian charities dealing with problems of poverty in the District of Columbia, irrespective of race or creed.

An early and generous response to this appeal is urgently requested.

(Signed)

Associated Charities:

CUNO H. RUDOLPH, President.  
JOHN JOY EDSON, Treasurer.

Citizens' Relief Association:

DR. WILLIAM C. RIVES, President.  
WILLIAM H. FLATHER, Treasurer.

Joint Finance Committee:

MILTON E. AILES, Chairman.  
HOWARD S. REESIDE, Treasurer.  
Social Service House, 923 H Street N.W.

few appreciate and for purely mercenary and selfish reasons.

#### "Pork Barrel" Well Filled.

"The pork barrel is kept well filled. We are spending millions of dollars for public buildings in the states that are not needed and for the improvement of so-called rivers and creeks that are of no public use. No wonder the national Treasury is bankrupt and the people are being taxed to keep up these many illegitimate and useless expenditures.

"But when an effort is made to clean up the National Capital that is within the jurisdiction of the government, and for which it is directly responsible, the purse strings are tightly drawn and the cheese-paring begins. The half-and-half system is appealed to as a reason and excuse for economy. And if the half-and-half system is adhered to it may just as well be conceded now, once for all, that this necessary improvement cannot be accomplished. The one-half of the money necessary for the initial work cannot be raised by taxation. It would be ruinous. And, so long as the government hides itself behind the half-and-half system, and contents itself by meeting one-

half of the expenses, the conditions in the capital will continue as they are now, a disgrace and a reproach to the nation. "These are conditions that should not be allowed to exist for a day in any city in a civilized country, much less in the capital of a great nation like ours. But it will be asked, what is the remedy? The remedy is simple and easy, but expensive. The government should take the matter vigorously in hand. As I have said, it should condemn and clean out these alleys at whatever cost.

#### Should Provide Other Homes.

"But it should not stop when it has turned these poor people out of their homes, however poor and insanitary they are. It should provide other homes for them at reasonable rents to be under the inspection and control of the government. This could be done as a matter of public safety and a sanitary measure. This duty of providing homes for the poor and incompetent within the capital should not be left to private enterprises seeking profits. Neither the cost nor the responsibility should be divided with anybody.

"To assess the damages resulting

from such sanitary improvements to private owners of property is entirely unreasonable and wholly unjust. Our civic pride as well as our sense of justice should impel us to act in this matter promptly and effectively. It has been done in other countries. It can and should be done in this country within its capital over which it has exclusive control.

"If Congress will abolish the 'local authority' here known as the District of Columbia, which is a mere incubator, and the half-and-half system, and deal with this awful condition directly and with a free hand, the conditions can be eliminated from the life of the capital, as they should be."

#### President Considering Invitation.

President Wilson probably will go to Springfield, Ill., February 12, to attend a celebration of Lincoln's birthday. The invitation was extended several weeks ago by Gov. Dunne of Illinois. The President is trying to arrange other engagements so he can accept, and if he goes he will deliver an address.

**W. & J. SLOANE**  
New York - WASHINGTON - San Francisco

Direct attention to their

### REMOVAL

on or about March 1st, to

**1508 H Street N.W.**  
(Opposite the Hotel Shoreham)

The new store will occupy the entire building and will therefore provide the facilities required by the firm's rapidly increasing business.

**1412-14 H Street N.W.**

Telephone Main: 4009 & 5733.

## Pennsylvania Saks & Company Seventh Avenue.

Specialists in Apparel for Men, Boys and Children.

### Three Big Clothing Specials.

The prices, as you read them, will appeal to you as most attractive—and the values when you come to see them will confirm your judgment that here are exceptional opportunities being offered.

Choice of Men's Suits and Overcoats, out of our regular stock—that have sold at

\$15, \$18 and \$20.

**\$13.75**

Choice of Men's Suits and Overcoats, our own productions—among the season's best sellers.

\$22.50, \$25 & \$30.

**\$19.75**

Choice of Conservative Cut Oxford Gray Overcoats; silk lined. All sizes.

\$35.00 Value,

**\$22.75**

All three of these lots are displayed on the Third Floor.

Young Men's Suits and Overcoats, \$13.50 to \$15 values ... **\$11.75**

They're the small lots of the regular stock. Popular grades, made popular by the distinctive models and the superior qualities. They are strictly Young Men's styles—as designed by our artists and made up by our craftsmen.

The Suits are English models; in many patterns. The Overcoats are both loose back and form fitting.

While the lots are small—practically all sizes are included in the entire assortment. Third Floor.

### Bargains That Will Interest You for the Boys.

We are bending our endeavors to getting the stocks in shape for inventory—and that makes this sacrificing of small lots justifiable. It's greatly to your advantage.

Boys' Novelty Overcoats, Double-breasted; buttoning to the neck; cloth lined. Sizes 2 1/2 to 4 years. **\$1.95**

Boys' Overcoats, long cut, with Chinilla collar. Sizes 8 to 15 years. **\$2.98**

Boys' Corduroy Combination Outfits—Coat, Hat and Leggings—Golden Brown shade. Sizes 3 to 6 years. **\$2.98**

Boys' Corduroy Suits, with 2 pairs of Pants and Hat to match. Khaki lined, reinforced seams. Sizes 7 to 14 only. **\$5.00**

Boys' Blue Serge and Fancy Mixed Suits—Norfolk, of our superior grades. Broken lots—but all sizes in one lot or another—from 8 to 17 years—

**\$5.00 Suits.....\$2.50**

**\$7.50 Suits.....\$3.75**

**\$10.00 Suits.....\$5.00**

**\$12.50 Suits.....\$6.25**

**\$15.00 Suits.....\$7.50**

Wright's Health Underwear—for Boys, in sizes 24 to 34—Shirts and Drawers, also there are more of the Shirts than Drawers. **29c**

50c Value.....

### Advance Styles in Boys' Wash Suits.

A Special Showing at Special Prices.

We have had our makers of Boys' Wash Suits make advance shipment of a limited quantity of many of the styles and effects which they are preparing for our spring and summer selling. It's a custom we have followed for many years back—to give you a glimpse of the coming fashion—and a "taste" of the prospective values—at special price.

They're Middy and Sailor Models—in many combinations—and all sizes from 3 to 10 years.

Values up **95c** to **\$2.00**

Second Floor.

Values up **\$1.65** to **\$3.50**

# Palais Royal

11th Street G Street



Men's Shop entrance on G street—two doors east of Eleventh. First stop near the door—street floor—and invest in "Onyx" Half Hose. 25c "Onyx" at 17c pair; 50c "Onyx" at 29c pair, and 75c "Onyx" at 35c.

### Kid Gloves

Women's, \$1.25 Value. **\$1**

Glace Kid, in white, black and colors. Cape Tan and pique stitched, in new shades of sand and putty. Ample quantities in all sizes—for tomorrow's visitors.

### Here's a Tip

Invest in Overcoat or Suit for now and next winter—and save the difference between the reduced and regular prices.

**\$22.50 to \$28.00 \$15.75**

Men's Overcoats and Suits.

**\$14.50 to \$19.50 \$11.75**

Men's Overcoats and Suits.

Clothing can be too faddish—the extreme fad of today may be laughed at next winter. This New Men's Shop Overcoats and Suits are NOT faddish—and will be as correct a year hence as now.

Designed by a \$10,000 a Year Genius.

The great corporation that supplies this and other leading clothiers of every leading city has a business so enormous that \$10,000 a year can be profitably expended to buy the best talent in the United States. It means clothing that sells on sight, reduced in prices only twice annually, when seasons change.

#### Why a Loss Is Profitable to Us.

The \$11.75 or \$15.75 received for Overcoat or Suit can be reinvested a half dozen times before January of next year. Each time profitably, so that the present loss ends in a future gain. For you it means an investment with a profit of about 40 per cent.



Boys' Shop on Second Floor—with everything from hats to shoes.

**Boys' Suits \$3.95** Pure Wool and Overcoats **Were \$6.00 and Up**

Ask your clothier this question—and look him in the eye as he answers: "Can you guarantee your Suits and Overcoats at \$4.00 and less to be all pure wool?" He can't—unless he gives you real \$6.00 or better Suits and Overcoats—as this New Boys' Shop guarantees.

**Long Overcoats—broken sizes—to 17 years.**

**Russian Overcoats and Balmacaans—to 10 years.**

**Norfolk Suits—2 pairs pants—to 17 years.**

**Cloth Caps—standard at 50c—for 39c.**

**15 Coats** **\$2.98**

Last fifteen of many hundreds—take them at less than the wholesale price. Sizes 2, 3 and 4 years only. Third floor—6 elevators.



### For The Youngsters

Knit Caps at 50c. Best Sunday Hats, were \$1.00 to \$5.00, now 50c to \$2.50.

**Youngsters' Dresses** **Were to \$1.25 Now 50c**

Wash Dresses, white and colors; sizes 2 to 6 years. Last of various lots—some mused—bunched at 50c for choice.

**Newest Dresses** **Only \$1.00**

Fourteen new styles of these 1916 Gingham Dresses, some with smocking and trimmings in contrasting colors. All sizes from 6 to 14 years.

**Middy Blouses** **Only 88c**

White Galatea Blouses, sizes 6 to 20 years. White and Navy Galatea Skirts, new styles; sizes 6 to 14 years. Third floor—6 elevators.

### New Millinery in Great Variety at \$3 to \$15

Selected by the Palais Royal's famous milliner—assuring for every woman her ideal. As little as \$3.00 and \$3.50 for New Satin, Maline and Sequin Hats, in black and colors; \$5.00 and \$6.50 for newly attractive Black Hats; \$6.50 to \$15.00 for daintiest of New Satin Small Hats, with floral trimmings. Second Floor Parlors.



**\$5 Blouses** **Reduced to \$2.95**

Last of Lots—including the Maker's Samples—100 in All.

Put money in your pocket tomorrow morning—sufficient to buy three or four of these Blouses. Do so—and you'll thank the writer for the suggestion. And be early—for the visions of beauty in real Georgette crepe, crepe de chine and rarely beautiful laces. Third floor—6 elevators.

### Note Palais Royal Hours: 9 to 6

Made in the interest of the majority of patrons who prefer to shop after rather than before office hours.